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3 **ABSTRACT**

4 An implementation of a technology is described herein for deriving robust
5 non-local characteristics and quantizing such characteristics for blind
6 watermarking of a digital good. This technology finds the proper balance between
7 minimizing the probability of false alarms (i.e., detecting a non-existent
8 watermark) and the probability of misses (i.e., failing to detect an existing
9 watermark). The technology, described herein, performs quantization index
10 modulation (QIM) based upon non-local characteristics of the digital good. Non-
11 local characteristics may include statistics (e.g., averages, median) of a group of
12 individual parts (e.g., pixels) of a digital good. This abstract itself is not intended
13 to limit the scope of this patent. The scope of the present invention is pointed out
14 in the appending claims.
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